# Why Space Station



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### **Exploration**

- We cannot meet the challenges posed by human exploration of the solar system without the knowledge and experience that the ISS will provide.
- We need the ISS to solve the substantial physiological challenges of long-duration space flight.
- We need the ISS to test technology and systems for exploration
- We need the ISS to learn how to solve the social and culture issues of long duration flight.

#### Research

- Gravity's influence is everywhere. From the structure that gives steel its strength, to the structure of bone in a growing child, gravity plays a role.
- Researchers can only eliminate the effects of gravity in space. In space, we enter a new realm of research in medicine, physics, chemistry and biology:
- Only the Space Station can give researchers the regular, interactive access to space that they require.



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#### Commerce:

 Ultimately, the solutions to the challenges of human space flight will open up new avenues of commerce. Even now, dozens of commercial firms conduct small-scale research projects in space. The Space Station will lay the groundwork for a vibrant and productive space economy.

### **Technology:**

 As we struggle to meet the great challenges of space flight, we produce new technologies that improve our health and productivity.

### **Leadership and Education:**

 The challenge of space flight brings people of different nations together. It encourages our children to pursue academic excellence. It helps us all to see a common and positive destiny for humanity. The Space Station will crystallize our vision of a peaceful future as no other project can.

